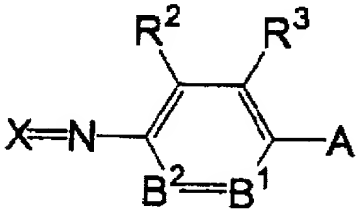
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An ink-jet ink comprising a coloring composition containing a coloring particulate containing an ionic-group-containing polymer, an oil-soluble dye, and a hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent having a boiling point of at least 150℃, the coloring particulate being dispersed in a water-based medium, wherein content of the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent in the coloring composition is at least 25% by mass and not more than 95% by mass with respect to a total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent.

2. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1 wherein the oil-soluble dye is represented by following general formula I:

general formula I



wherein X represents a residual group of a color coupler; A represents one of $-NR^4R^5$ and a hydroxy group; R^4 and R^5 each independently represents one of a hydrogen atom, aliphatic group, aromatic group and heterocyclic group; B^1 represents one

group, aromatic group and heterocyclic group; B^1 represents one of =C(R^6)- and =N-; B^2 represents one of -C(R^7)= and -N=; R^2, R^3, R^6 and R^7 each independently represent one of a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, aliphatic group, aromatic group, heterocyclic group, cyano group, -OR^{51}, -SR^{52}, -CO_2R^{53}, -$OCOR^{54}$, -$NR^{55}R^{56}$, -$CONR^{57}R^{58}$, -SO_2R^{59}, -$SO_2NR^{60}R^{61}$, -$NR^{62}CONR^{63}R^{64}$, -$NR^{65}CO_2R^{66}$, -COR^{67}, -$NR^{68}COR^{69}$, and -$NR^{70}SO_2R^{71}$; R^{51}, R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55}, R^{56}, R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60}, R^{61}, R^{62}, R^{63}, R^{64}, R^{65}, R^{66}, R^{67}, R^{68}, R^{69}, R^{70} and R^{71} each independently represents one of a hydrogen atom, aliphatic group and aromatic group; and any of pairs, R^2 and R^3, R^3 and R^4, R^4 and R^5, R^5 and R^6, and R^6 and R^7 may bond together to form a ring structure.

3. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein the ionic-group-containing polymer is a vinyl polymer.

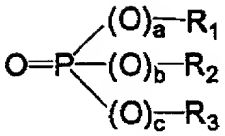
4. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein a relative dielectric constant at 25℃ of the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent is from 3 to 12.

5. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein the vinyl polymer has at least one of carboxyl groups and sulfonic acid groups as ionic groups.

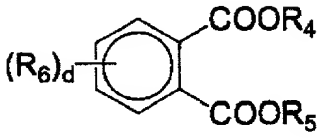
6. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein the

hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent is at least one hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent selected from hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvents represented by following formulae S-1 to S-9:

Formula [S-1]



Formula [S-2]

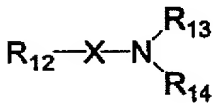


Formula [S-3]

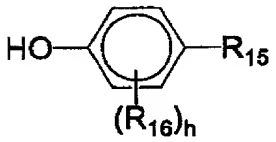
Formula [S-4]

Formula [S-5]

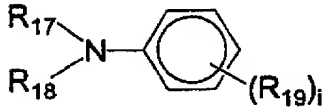
Formula [S-6]



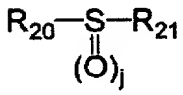
Formula [S-7]



Formula [S-8]



Formula [S-9]



wherein: in the formula S-1, R_1, R_2 and R_3 each

independently represents one of an aliphatic group and an aryl group, and a, b and c each independently represents 0 or 1;

in the formula S-2, R_4 and R_5 each independently represents one of an aliphatic group and an aryl group, R_6 represents one of a fluorine atom, chlorine atom, bromine atom, iodine atom, alkyl group, alkoxy group, aryloxy group, alkoxycarbonyl group and aryloxycarbonyl group, d represents an integer from 0 to 3, and, in a case where d is more than 1, one R_6 may be different from another R_6;

in the formula S-3, Ar represents an aryl group, e represents an integer from 1 to 6, and R_7 represents one of an e-valent hydrocarbon group and a hydrocarbon group that is mutually bonded by an ether bond;

in the formula S-4, R_8 represents an aliphatic group, f represents an integer from 1 to 6, and R_9 represents one of an f-valent hydrocarbon group and a hydrocarbon group that is mutually bonded by an ether bond;

in the formula S-5, g represents an integer from 2 to 6, R_{10} represents a g-valent hydrocarbon group other than an aryl group, and R_{11} represents one of an aliphatic group and an aryl group;

in the formula S-6, R_{12} , R_{13} and R_{14} each independently represents one of a hydrogen atom, aliphatic group and aryl group, X represents one of -CO- and -SO_2-, and one of a pair R_{12} and R_{13} and a pair R_{13} and R_{14} may bond together mutually to

form a ring;

in the formula S-7, R_{15} represents one of an aliphatic group, alkoxycarbonyl group, aryloxycarbonyl group, alkylsulfonyl group, arylsulfonyl group, aryl group and cyano group, R_{16} represents one of a fluorine atom, chlorine atom, bromine atom, iodine atom, aliphatic group, aryl group, alkoxy group and aryloxy group, h represents an integer from 0 to 3, and in a case where h is more than 1, one R_{16} may be different form another R_{16};

in the formula S-8, R_{17} and R_{18} each independently represents one of an aliphatic group and an aryl group, R_{19} represents one of a fluorine atom, chlorine atom, brorine atom, iodine atom, aliphatic group, aryl group, alkoxy group and aryloxy group, i represents an integer from 0 to 4, and, in a case where i is more than 1, one R_{19} may be different from another R_{19};

in the formula S-9, R_{20} and R_{21} each independently represents an aliphatic group or aryl group, and j represents 1 or 2.

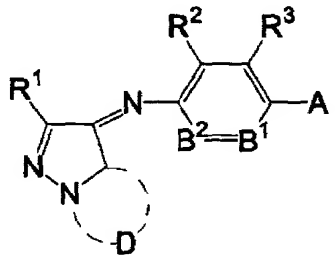
7. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein the content of the ionic-group-containing polymer is 1 to 70% by mass with respect to the total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent.

8. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein the content of the oil-soluble dye is 3 to 70% by mass with respect to the total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent.

9. An ink-jet ink according to claim 1, wherein average particle size of the coloring particulate is at most 100 nm.

10. An ink-jet ink according to claim 2, wherein the oil-soluble dye which is represented in said general formula I is a compound which is represented in the following general formula II:

General Formula II



wherein, R^2, R^3, A, B^1, and B^2 are synonymous with R^2, R^3, A, B^1, and B^2 in said general formula I;

R^1 represents one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, a cyano group, $-OR^{11}$, $-SR^{12}$, $-CO_2R^{13}$, $-OCOR^{14}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-CONR^{17}R^{18}$, $-SO_2R^{19}$, -

$SO_2NR^{20}R^{21}$, $-NR^{22}CONR^{23}R^{24}$, $-NR^{25}CO_2R^{26}$, $-COR^{27}$, $-NR^{28}COR^{29}$, and $-NR^{30}SO_2R^{31}$;

R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20}, R^{21}, R^{22}, R^{23}, R^{24}, R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28}, R^{29}, R^{30}, and R^{31} represent respectively independently one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, and an aromatic group;

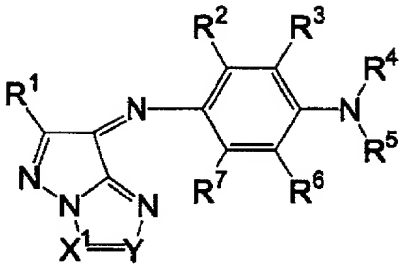
D represents an atom group which forms one of a five-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring and a six-membered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic ring which may be substituted for at least one of an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, a cyano group, $-OR^{81}$, $-SR^{82}$, $-CO_2R^{83}$, $-OCOR^{84}$, $-NR^{85}R^{86}$, $-CONR^{87}R^{88}$, $-SO_2R^{89}$, $-SO_2NR^{90}R^{91}$, $-NR^{92}CONR^{93}R^{94}$, $-NR^{95}CO_2R^{96}$, $-COR^{97}$, $-NR^{98}COR^{99}$, and $-NR^{100}SO_2R^{101}$;

the heterocyclic ring may further form a condensed ring with another ring; and

R^{81}, R^{82}, R^{83}, R^{84}, R^{85}, R^{86}, R^{87}, R^{88}, R^{89}, R^{90}, R^{91}, R^{92}, R^{93}, R^{94}, R^{95}, R^{96}, R^{97}, R^{98}, R^{99}, R^{100}, and R^{101} represent respectively independently one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, and an aromatic group.

11. An ink-jet ink according to claim 10, wherein the compound which is represented in said general formula II is a compound which is represented in the following general formula III:

General formula III



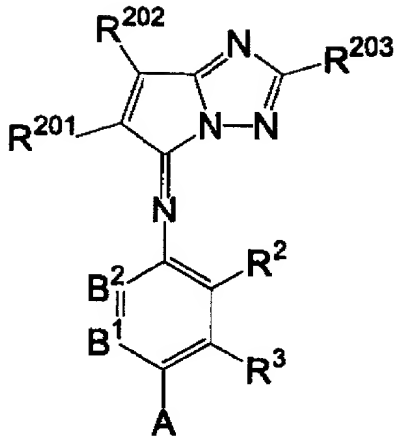
wherein, R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, and R^7 are synonymous with R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, and R^7 in said general formula II;

X^1 and Y represent respectively independently one of -C (R^8) = and -N=;

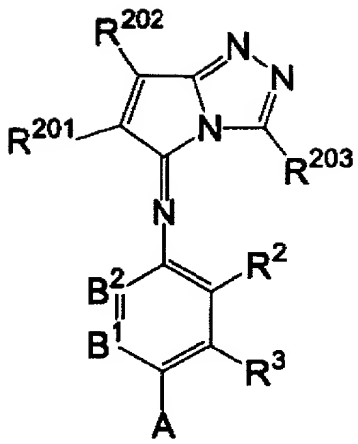
R^8 represents one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, and an aromatic group; and

one of X^1 and Y is always -N=, and X^1 and Y are -N= at different times.

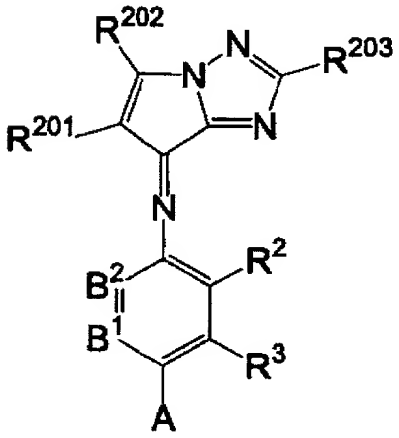
12. An ink-jet ink according to claim 2, wherein the oil-soluble dye which is represented in said general formula I is at least one of compounds which are represented in the following formulas IV-1 to IV-4:



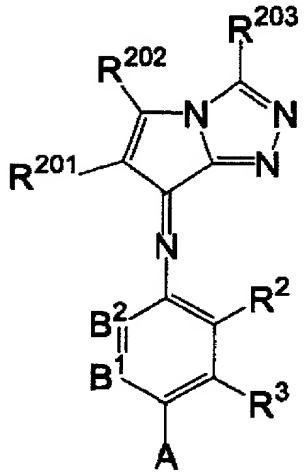
(IV－1)



(IV－2)



(IV－3)



(IV－4)

wherein, A, R^2, R^3, B^1, and B^2 are synonymous with A, R^2, R^3, B^1, and B^2 in said general formula I;

R^{201}, R^{202}, and R^{203} represent respectively independently one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, an aromatic group, a heterocyclic group, a cyano group, $-OR^{11}$, $-SR^{12}$, $-CO_2R^{13}$, $-OCOR^{14}$, $-NR^{15}R^{16}$, $-CONR^{17}R^{18}$, $-SO_2R^{19}$, $-SO_2NR^{20}R^{21}$, $-NR^{22}CONR^{23}R^{24}$, $-NR^{25}CO_2R^{26}$, $-COR^{27}$, $-NR^{28}COR^{29}$, and -

$NR^{30}SO_2R^{31}$;

R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20}, R^{21}, R^{22}, R^{23}, R^{24}, R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27}, R^{28}, R^{29}, R^{30}, and R^{31} represent respectively independently one of a hydrogen atom, an aliphatic group, and an aromatic group; and

R^{201} and R^{202} may be combined with each other and form a ring structure.

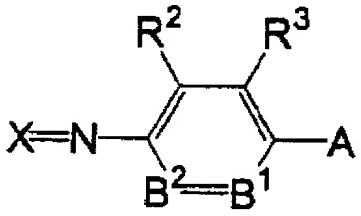
13. A coloring composition comprising a coloring particulate containing an ionic-group-containing polymer, an oil-soluble dye, and a hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent having a boiling point of at least 150℃, the coloring particulate being dispersed in a water-based medium, wherein content of the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent in the coloring composition is at least 25% by mass and not more than 95% by mass with respect to a total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent.

14. An ink-jet recording method in which recording is conducted using an ink-jet ink on a recording material, the ink comprising a coloring composition containing a coloring particulate containing an ionic-group-containing polymer, an oil-soluble dye, and a hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent having a boiling point of at least 150℃, the coloring

particulate being dispersed in a water-based medium, wherein content of the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent in the coloring composition is at least 25% by mass and not more than 95% by mass with respect to a total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent.

15. An ink-jet recording method according to claim 14 wherein the oil-soluble dye is represented by following general formula I:

general formula I



wherein X represents a residual group of a color coupler; A represents one of $-NR^4R^5$ and a hydroxy group; R^4 and R^5 each independently represents one of a hydrogen atom, aliphatic group, aromatic group and heterocyclic group; B^1 represents one of $=C(R^6)-$ and $=N-$; B^2 represents one of $-C(R^7)=$ and $-N=$; R^2, R^3, R^6 and R^7 each independently represent one of a hydrogen atom, halogen atom, aliphatic group, aromatic group, heterocyclic group, cyano group, $-OR^{51}$, $-SR^{52}$, $-CO_2R^{53}$, $-OCOR^{54}$, $-NR^{55}R^{56}$,

$-CONR^{57}R^{58}$, $-SO_2R^{59}$, $-SO_2NR^{60}R^{61}$, $-NR^{62}CONR^{63}R^{64}$, $-NR^{65}CO_2R^{66}$, $-COR^{67}$, $-NR^{68}COR^{69}$, and $-NR^{70}SO_2R^{71}$; R^{51}, R^{52}, R^{53}, R^{54}, R^{55}, R^{56}, R^{57}, R^{58}, R^{59}, R^{60}, R^{61}, R^{62}, R^{63}, R^{64}, R^{65}, R^{66}, R^{67}, R^{68}, R^{69}, R^{70} and R^{71} each independently represents one of a hydrogen atom, aliphatic group and aromatic group; and any of pairs, R^2 and R^3, R^3 and R^4, R^4 and R^5, R^5 and R^6, and R^6 and R^7 may bond together to form a ring structure.

16. An ink-jet recording method according to claim 14 wherein the recording material includes a substrate on which is provided an ink receiving layer containing a porous inorganic pigment.

17. An ink-jet recording method comprising the step of:

(a) preparing an ink-jet ink, containing coloring composition in which coloring particulate containing an ionic-group-containing polymer, an oil-soluble dye, and a hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent having a boiling point of at least 150℃ are dispersed in an aqueous medium, with the content of the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent in the coloring composition being at least 25% by mass and not more than 95% by mass with respect to total amount of the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent,

(b) disposing the ink-jet ink in a cartridge adapted for use

in an ink-jet printer, and

(c) using the cartridge in an ink jet printer for recording images.

18. An ink-jet recording method according to claim 17, wherein the step of preparing an ink-jet ink includes the sub-step of dispersing the ionic-group-containing polymer, the oil-soluble dye, and the hydrophobic high-boiling-point organic solvent by a co-emulsifying dispersion technique.